

Docket No.: 20402-00635-US  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Hiroto Sumida, et al.

Application No.: 09/973,878

Confirmation No.:

Filed: October 11, 2001

Art Unit: 1728

For: CONNECTING MEMBER FOR CONNECTING  
CARRIER TAPES AND CARRIER TAPE  
CONNECTING METHOD USING THIS  
CONNECTING METHOD

Examiner: J. Lorengo

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

A copy of each reference on PTO/SB/08 is attached.

Comments regarding the Information Disclosure Statement are attached hereto.

295287

Application No.: 09/973,878

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 20402-00635-US. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: October 2<sup>9</sup>, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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**COMMENTS REGARDING INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

The Patent Abstracts of Japan listed in the IDS show the use of adhesive strips on a base strip for connecting carrier tapes of the type used in the present invention. However, the prior art requires a separate pin jig for aligning the carrier tapes as opposed to the inclusion of an integrated reference band as employed in the present application.

PTO/SB/06A/0 (05-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO		<b>Complete if Known</b>			
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		Application Number	09/973,878-Conf. #7078		
		Filing Date	October 11, 2001		
		First Named Inventor	Hiroto Sumida		
		Art Unit	1728		
		Examiner Name	J. Lorengo		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	20402-00635-US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>2</sup> -Number <sup>3</sup> -Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>5</sup>
	BA	JP 2000-038242	02/08/2000	Koui		
	BB	JP 2000-124665	04/28/2000	Hiroto et al.		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 801.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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